

From: [Mark Henkels](#)
To: [Coffin Butte Landfill Appeals](#)
Subject: Negative impact of Coffin Butte on character of local area and undue burden on local facilities
Date: Friday, October 17, 2025 6:06:31 PM

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Commissioners:

I appreciate the time and energy this process demands of you. I was very impressed by the similar commitment by the volunteers of the Planning Commission.

Statement and Evidence in Opposition to the Expansion of Coffin Butte landfill, LU-24-027

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I have attached a very short video show just a little of the miles of litter running from Highway 20 to Coffin Butte landfill. In case you cannot open the video, I have pasted a couple of pictures below. This is not the worst stretch for litter, but it is one that I have to see almost every day. This was filmed today, October 17, 2025.

Such litter, and the periodic odors experienced here, affect the character of this area of Benton County very much. The expansion would increase or, at the minimum, extend our exposure to these harms. Furthermore, Benton County government itself will not always allow our roads to look like secondary dumps. Then we will wind up spending money cleaning it up, creating costs and inconveniences for Benton County government and residents. This will not end until the dump is closed. But I would still like to see the clean-ups because the litter is really disgusting. I strongly encourage you to drive here and see for yourself.

Republic Services has not even tried to make this local area look good even as we approach the date for the expansion decision. RS officials obviously do not care about the area now, probably because they are based in Phoenix, and they probably never will see or care about us once the expansion is approved.

This is also evidence that future operations of the Coffin Butte expansion will reflect calculations by Republic Services of how to maximize profits while minimizing costs. No "Conditions of Approval" will change the fundamental dynamic that creates this and other problems and risks.

Knowing that you have discretion to deny the expansion based on its impacts on the character of the area and its impact on our facilities and resources gives me hope.

Thank you for your attention. I truly hope you get to this part of the County sometime and see this for yourself.

Mark Henkels



Coffin Butte litter along the Independence
Highway.MOV

